NOTES ON THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE BACON DATABASE *Neil How - Nov 2025*

Note: neither the original nor the reconstruction is a strict "relational" database; the original was a 1980s UEA DEC computer listing program, the reconstruction is in spreadsheet format, making possible sorting records by any field or fields, or downloading into other formats.
The computer database was lost, but printouts of the whole exist at the Norfolk archives, from which the reconstruction was possible.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ORIGINAL AND RECONSTRUCTION

The original database records have various symbols used to denote specific attributes to some field entries, such as ^ * M, as well as "Journey Number " where relevant. In the interest of economy of input time they are not reproduced in the reconstruction; for further details on the significance of these (and the design of and inputting to the original database generally, in great detail) the "ESRC Manual" (Norfolk archives reference Acc 2012/72/4) and the printouts should be examined. Modified versions of the spreadsheets could have these extras as new columns added and filled by a user with reference to the printouts to conform more closely with the original.

The sheets have been formatted to all include a field "Daily Pay Rate in d" even when not applicable to the data; this enables combining them and reordering them in for example date order, whatever the record type. Note that the original has monetary values in pounds shillings pence (£sd), so a field has been added to the reconstruction which converts the sums to modern decimal £p value. Other added fields are "Editor Comment" and "Viewer Comment" for observations and/or information about the original entries. The place names entered in the original have been conjoined into one field, so the relevance (consult the manual) of their position in the printout is ignored.

SOURCES - The field "Doc Ref" gives the number for the manuscript source of the record; copies of the original manuscripts are held at Norfolk archives. This is the list from the manual.

1 = Steward's Accounts (May 1576- May 1577) Expenditure (MS Reading University Library Norf.20)
2 = Steward's Accounts (June 1576- Aug 1577) Receipts (MS Reading University Library Norf.20)
3 = Kitchen Accounts (Aug 1592- June 1596) Expenditure (MS NRO.BL.V.IIb(5)) **NOT IN RECONSTRUCTION**
4 = Steward's Accounts (Midsummer 1587- Michaelmas 1597) Expenditure (MS Raynham Hall Box 33)
5 = Estate Yard Accounts (Dec 1588- Dec 1598) Expenditure (MS Folger Shakespeare Library E.b.2)
6 = Steward's Accounts (Midsummer 1587- Michaelmas 1597) Receipts (MS Raynham Hall Box 33)
7 = Labourers' Accounts (May 1582- Oct 1583) Expenditure & Receipts (MS Chicago 991-A)
8 = Labourers' Accounts (May 1583- May 1584) Expenditure & Receipts (MS NRO.1600.1.C.9)

Note: 7 & 8 are somewhat misnomered; they are mostly general building accounts for Stiffkey Hall including many different trades and suppliers

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In sheets, field P/R, P = payment, R = Receipt

CODES - Every record entry has a code which has a meaning listed here from the manual.

AA Annuities, executors payments and expenses, quarterly allowances, doweries - Admin Personal
AB Lump sums to pay unspecified wages - Agriculture Wages
AC Lump sums to pay harvest workers and haymakers - Agriculture Wages
AF Rights of foreshore and wreck, admiralty court - Admin Personal etc
AH Lump sums to pay household expenses - Household General
AL Livery clothes for servants - Household Personal Clothing
AM Musters, attendance at by servants - Admin Personal etc
AP Dock, pilotage, sea-going boats, nets and equipment - Household Service Court
AQ Assizes, quarter sessions, sheriff's turn, in private capacity - Admin Personal etc
AR Arms, armour, uniforms - Admin Personal etc
AS Lump sums to pay shepherds - Agriculture Wages
AT Lump sums to pay threshers - Agriculture Wages
AU Unspecified work in household or elsewhere - Household General
AW Lump sums for wages - Building / Repairs

BA Alabaster - Building Materials
BB Bricks bought or burnt, brick kiln equipment, digging & carting clay - Building Materials
BC Building of banqueting house - Building Work
BD Materials for painting - Building Materials
BE Building work at outlying manors and house in Norwich - Building Work
BF Paving tiles / stone - Building Materials
BG Garden building work - Building Work
BH Building work on hall, inc. all unspecified work relating to building - n.b. Code FK
BI Ironmongery - Building Materials
BJ Materials for plastering eg hair - Building Materials
BK Stone i.e. flint, carrying / digging - Building Materials
BL Lime and lime kiln, burning, buying equipment for - Household Service Court
BM Miscellaneous building materials eg. glue, varnish, rosin, pitch, mortar - Building Materials
BP Plumbers' and glaziers' materials eg. lead, solder - Building Materials
BR Tiles, tile pins - Building Materials
BS Stone i.e. dressed - Building Materials
BT Thatch, thatching - Building Materials
BV Sand - Building Materials
BW Glass - Building Materials
BZ Buying / repairing tools, scaffolding - Building Tools

CA Straw - Agriculture Production
CB Barley - Agriculture Production
CC Corn - Agriculture Production
CD Peas, beans - Agriculture Production
CE Purchase of wheat, barley, rye, meslin, vetches - Agriculture Purchased Products
CF Chaff - Agriculture Production
CG Grinding corn / malt, mill, milling - Agriculture Processing
CH Hay - Agriculture Production
CJ Saffron buying / processing, saffron kiln - Agriculture Processing
CK Purchases of hempseed - Agriculture Purchased Products
CL Purchases of oats, peas, beans - Agriculture Purchased Products
CM Malt / malting, equipment for malthouse inc. pump - Agriculture Processing

CN Meslin - Agriculture Production
CO Oats - Agriculture Production
CP Hops - Agriculture Production
CQ Flax - Agriculture Production
CR Rye - Agriculture Production
CS Hides / skins and their preparation eg. tanning - Agriculture Livestock Produce
CT Reeds, reeding - Building Materials
CU Saffron cultivation and sales - Agriculture Production
CV Vetches - Agriculture Production
CW Wool - Agriculture Livestock Produce
CY Wheat - Agriculture Production
CZ Seed corn, purchase of - Agriculture Purchased Products

DB Payment of unspecified bills - Business Expenditure
DC Duck decoy, work / boat at Langham pond / water - Household Service Court
DR Reckonings - Business General
DT Dressmaking / tailoring / embroidering, and materials - Crafts / Industry
DY Dyeing - Crafts / Industry

ED Education, schooling and connected expenses, learning by heart - Education / Culture
EE Private living expenses in London - see EP below - Travel and Transport
EF Visits to family - Social
EH Equine travelling expenses, including shoeing away from home - Travel and Transport
EL Horse hire and incidental expenses - Travel and Transport
EP Parliamentary elections, expenses in London when Bacon is an MP - Administration Public
ES Social visits to non-family - Social
ET Travelling expenses, people - Travel and Transport

FA Dairy and Cheese chamber, expenses, equipment etc - Household Service Court
FB Floor coverings; buying/cutting materials eg. marram, grass, reeds, rushes; rush mats - Household Furniture & Furnishings
FC Carting / carrying, non-agricultural - Travel and Transport
FD Cutting and maintenance of the river - Agriculture Estate Maintenance
FE Lawer (laver), planting hedges, making fences - Agriculture Estate Maintenance
FH Hopyard work - Agriculture Activities
FJ Haymaking, including contract mowing, all activities, and if context indicates though work is unspecified - Agriculture Activities
FK Labourer, agricultural or building, when undefined - Agriculture Activities, Building Work
FL Harvesting, all activities eg. reaping, shearing, tieing, pitching; also gloves, cups, food for harvesters - Agriculture Activities
FN Agricultural carting - Agriculture Activities
FO Trees for garden: buying, planting, pruning etc - Gardens
FP Ploughing, harrowing - Agriculture Activities
FQ Agricultural labouring, defined (see FK above) - Agriculture Activities
FR Making/buying coach, harness, saddlery, stable equipment, hay & straw - Travel and Transport
FS Sheep shearing - Agriculture Activities
FT Threshing and pitching - Agriculture Activities
FU Miscellaneous farming operations - Agriculture Activities
FW Weeding in fields - Agriculture Activities

FX Repairs to harness, saddlery and coach - Travel and Transport
FY Hedging, ditching, dyking - Agriculture Estate Maintenance

GC Garments purchased for Bacon family - Household Personal Clothing
GD Garden furnishings eg. sundial - Gardens
GF Nets, making, mending, buying - Crafts / Industry
GG Gifts & gratuities (money & goods) given by Bacon or his servants eg. christening presents, tips to other people's household servants - Social
GH Preparing and spinning yarn - Crafts / Industry
GJ Jewellery and silver - Household Personal Clothing
GL Buying leather - Crafts / Industry
GM Special payments to servants and others eg. harvestmen - Social
GN Alms giving - Social
GP Plants, seeds etc for garden - Gardens
GR Gifts (goods and money) received by Bacon - Social
GS Supplies and tools for garden (excluding plants etc) - Gardens
GV Miscellaneous references to gardeners - Gardens
GW Work in garden, including mowing, and unspecified work in grounds - Gardens

HA Household expenses for rented house & lodgings in Norwich - Household General
HB Brewery and bakehouse - Household Utensils etc
HC Cheese, butter, cream, purchases (see LG, sales) - Household Provisions
HD Chickens, hens, capons (see HT below) purchases - Household Provisions
HE Fresh fruit and vegetables, nuts etc - Household Provisions
HF Wildfowl - Household Provisions
HG Pigs - Household Provisions
HI Fresh fish, shellfish - Household Provisions
HJ Candles - Household Provisions
HK Kitchen, larder and buttery equipment - Household Utensils etc
HL Pump (unspecified) - Household Service Court
HM Wine, vinegar, purchases, and casks for - Household Provisions
HN Meat and bacon - Household Provisions
HO Eggs - Household Provisions
HP Groceries, dried fruit, spices etc, salt - Household Provisions
HQ Unknown household purchase - Household Provisions
HR Rabbits, conies - Household Provisions
HS Furniture, making and repairs, inc. basket-making - Household Furniture etc
HT Poultry other than chickens: turkeys, geese, pigeons - Household Provisions
HV Salt fish - Household Provisions
HW Domestic work in house or household departments - Household General
HY Miscellaneous household repairs, exc. kitchen, brewery, buttery - Household Utensils etc
HZ Furniture, furnishings, linen, bought or borrowed - Household Furniture etc

JA Assizes, quarter sessions, Sheriff's turn - Administration Public
JC Customs payments - Administration Public
JD Duchy of Lancaster, business and expenses - Administration Public
JH Estate administration eg. surveying - Administration Personal
JL Legal affairs - Administration Personal
JM Manor court business - Administration Personal

JN Militia rates / administration, impressing - Administration Public
JO Law and order - Administration Public
JP Privy seal business, loan collecting - Administration Public
JR Commissions, special and unspecified, Kirk's patent, meetings of JPs - Administration Public
JS Personal payment of subsidy / task - Administration Personal
JT Parochial and county expenses - Administration Personal
JV Tithe payments by Bacon - Business Expenditure
JW Collecting of subsidy / task - Administration Public
JZ Collecting of parish rates - Administration Public

KC Building work at dairy - Building Work
KD Work on dyke - Building Work
KM Bank at Morston - Building Work
KN Knitting and materials for knitting - Crafts / Industry
KS Work at sluice bank - Building Work
KT Building work at stables - Household Service Court

LB Bees - Agriculture Livestock
LC Calves - Agriculture Livestock
LD Cattle - Agriculture Livestock
LF Henhouse - Household Service Court
LG Dairy produce, sales (see HC, purchases) - Agriculture Livestock Produce
LN Farm horses - Agriculture Livestock
LO Riding and driving horses, general, veterinary treatment, purchases, breaking, crying, lost horses - Travel and Transport
LP Pigs, swine, as farm animals - Agriculture Livestock
LS Sheep and lambs of all kinds eg. wethers, pulks - Agriculture Livestock
LV Tallow - Agriculture Livestock Produce

MB Money borrowed by Bacon - Business General
MG Card playing and other games - Social
ML Money lent by Bacon - Business General
MM Letters/servants sent to/from Bacon, messages carried by others - Social
MN Miscellaneous personal purchases for Bacon - Household General
MO Trading ventures - Business Income
MS Transfer of money for/by third party not a family member - Business General
MT Business / other activity on behalf of / by family members eg. purchases - Business General
MZ Miscellaneous household purchases - Household General

NA Slaughterhouse, slaughtering - Household Service Court
NB Dovehouse - Household Service Court
ND Dog kennels - Household Service Court, also Social
NF Falconry, game-shooting, inc. falconer's equipment eg. lead, gunpowder - Social
NR Reed house - Household Service Court
NS Fish chamber - Household Service Court

OP Oyster pit - Household Service Court

PG Miscellaneous local carrying (see PL and PN below) - Travel and Transport
PH Haven house, work at and purchases for - Household Service Court
PL Transport of unspecified goods to/from London - Travel and Transport
PN Transport of unspecified goods to/from Norwich - Travel and Transport
PP Payments made for unspecified reasons - Business Expenditure also Social

QQ Unknown purchases, excluding for kitchen

RA Rent received for agistment - Business Income
RB Receipts from supplying lodging, food, drink - Business Income
RL Sale of property - Business Income
RM Rent received for meadows - Business Income
RO Sales of miscellaneous materials eg. iron, sacks, fish oil, salt, reeds - Business Income
RP Rent paid by Bacon - Business Expenditure
RR Rents received in cash or kind, land sales, entry fines, court profits - Business Income
RT Tithes - Business Income
RW Sales of any kind of wood, timber or furze - Business Income

SB Oatmeal, flour, bread, biscuits, bought or made - Household Provisions
SC Coal house; coal, charcoal, firewood - Household Service Court
SF Made-up sweet dishes eg. marchpanes, sweetmeats - Household Provisions
SP Made-up savoury dishes eg. cooked pies - Household Provisions
SQ Wages paid quarterly or weekly - Household General
SS Money given to Bacon or his wives for unspecified purposes - Household General

TA Clapboard - Building Materials
TB Boards, planks - Building Materials
TC Timber; hewing, sawing and carting - Building Materials
TF Furze yard; making/carting furze - Household Service Court
TG Woodstore and billet house, making/carting faggots and other firewood - Household Service Court
TJ Hurdles, stakes, gates, for agricultural use - Agricultural Implements
TL Lath riving and purchasing - Building Materials
TP Prickwood, splints, staging poles and ropes, spars, piles, stakes, pale - Building Materials
TS Shells - Household Furniture etc
TT Felling or buying timber trees - Building Materials
TW Wainscot - Building Materials

UR Unspecified Receipts - Business Income

VR Non-family residents at Stiffkey Hall - Social
VS Visitors to Stiffkey Hall - Social

WA Purchases of medicines, apothecary's goods - Medical
WB Books purchased - Education / Culture
WC Cistern and pump (forcer) - Household Service Court

WD Consultations with doctors, apothecaries, wise men and women - Medical
WK Music, drama, embroidery - Education / Culture
WM Maps and pictures bought, equipment for their hanging - Education / Culture
WS Laundry, including purchases of soap and starch - Household Provisions / Store
WV Mole and vermin catching - Agriculture Activities

XX Entertainment / amusement other than games at code MG - Social

YB Boots and shoes - Household Personal Clothing
YP Barber - Household general

ZA Repairs/alterations to garments, dyeing by tailors - Household Personal Clothing
ZB Personal items bought for Bacon's wives and daughters - Household General
ZF Miscellaneous purchases of implements and agricultural ironmongery - Agriculture Implements
ZH NOT USED AFTER 1592 Blacksmith, household ironmongery eg. keys, locks - Building Materials
ZI Materials for spinning/weaving/sewing, including loom equipment - Crafts / Industry
ZM Materials purchased for clothes - Household Personal Clothing
ZR Shoeing, riding, driving horses at home - Travel and Transport
ZW Weaving - Crafts / Industry
ZX Tailors' and furriers' bills for making clothes - Household Personal Clothing